

CURRENT PSYCHIATRIC THERAPIES—Vol. 7, 1967—
Edited by Jules H. Masserman, M.D., Professor and Chairman of Psychiatry, Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016, 1967. 251 pages, \$12.00. (Published annually and available in print: Vols. 1 to 6, dated consecutively 1961 to 1966.)

This is the seventh and latest contribution to a, by now, popular series which has appeared annually under the editorship of Dr. Jules Masserman. Its goal is to review the status of current psychiatric therapies: The title, appropriately, is cast in the plural and the reader cannot fail to be impressed by the variety and diversity of approaches now in use or of the problems to which psychiatry addresses itself and calls its own. The book follows an already familiar format and is divided into seven sections, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Individual Psychotherapy, Marital Therapy, Drugs and Addiction, Group Techniques, Institution and Community, and a final one, Review and Integration, with a scholarly and thoughtful article by Dr. Masserman which endeavors a synthesis of so much diversity. The topics covered in the various sections range from special and discrete issues (e.g. "Dynamically Oriented Art Therapy") to matters of broad and social import (e.g. "Developments in Community Psychiatry"). Despite its wide scope, the book does not (and could not) attempt to cover *all* facets of psychiatric thinking and interest. For example, psychoanalysis and psychosomatic medicine, which were represented in earlier issues of this series, do not appear in this volume (with the exception of one article on "Therapy of Writer's Cramp"). In general, the emphasis is on brief treatment and on group, milieu and rehabilitative approaches, in keeping with the current trend that favors interest in community psychiatry. On the whole, the quality of the individual contributions is high. Some are excellent, for example, Harold Lief's article on "Psychotherapy of Medical Students," which is thorough and quite definitive, and Elvin Semrad's on "Comprehensive Therapy of Schizophrenia." The latter in four short pages, which sparkle with Semrad's characteristically terse and lucid views, manages to describe the essentials of good treatment for the schizophrenic. One article ("Multiple Psychotherapy in Inpatient Consultation" by William Offenkrantz), on the other hand, represents what this reviewer considers innovation for its own sake. It describes the group treatment of a single patient by 8 to 18 staff members (simultaneously!).

In sum, this worthwhile addition to an already established and successful series will give the medical reader, psychiatrist and non-psychiatrist, an informative view of psychiatric thinking today.

PIETRO CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO, M.D.

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RECENT ADVANCES IN NUCLEAR MEDICINE—
Based on a Symposium Sponsored by the Department of Radiology of the Hahnemann Medical College—Edited by Millard N. Croll, M.D., Associate Professor of Radiology; and Luther W. Brady, M.D., Professor of Radiology, both of The Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia. Appleton-Century-Crofts, 440 Park Ave., New York 10016, 1966. 260 pages, \$12.50.

This book consists of a collection of papers presented at a symposium held at the Hahnemann Medical College in March 1965, covering many aspects of Nuclear Medicine. In a field progressing as actively as Nuclear Medicine, such a book can become rapidly outdated. A number of the papers included suffer from this problem, but there are several which anticipate important new developments, and several which give a good analysis of techniques currently used widely as routine procedures.

Regarding future applications, excellent papers by

Richards and by Smith outline the production, chemistry and dosimetry of technetium^{99m} which is probably becoming the most useful single isotope available to radioisotope laboratories. Harris's paper on low energy collimators also is pertinent in its applicability to technetium scanning. A paper by Charkes and his collaborators on tumor scanning with cesium¹³¹ is of interest not only for the potential usefulness of radiocesium as a tumor label, but also as an example of another generator system for isotope production. Such generators will undoubtedly be used more and more in the future.

Several papers give good detailed analysis of widely used routine tests or techniques, such as Taplin's thorough discussion of the I¹³¹-iodohippurate renocystogram, Quinn's and Taplin's comparisons of vascular and inhalatory lung scans, Johnson's analysis of kinetic data from surface counting, and Harris's comparison of methods of rate recording. Some newer and more esoteric types of tests also are well reviewed such as myocardial and cerebral blood flow studies, parathyroid scanning with Se⁷⁵-selenomethionine and its dosimetry, joint scanning, and the dosimetry of "beta-type" radiation from non-beta-emitting radionuclides.

A rather glaring omission at the symposium was the almost total absence of any reference to the Anger-type scintillation camera, an instrument which is being used more and more widely as a major scintiscanning tool. The brief paper on the auto-fluoroscope also does not go into enough detail to satisfy either the newcomer who is not familiar with its design and abilities, nor the established investigator who would like to hear more of the details of its current performance. The use of computers in Nuclear Medicine, an area which is receiving great attention and will prove extremely valuable for the storage, analysis and variable presentation of dynamic data, receives only brief comment in an article on the analysis of blood volume data. A few minor omissions suggest rather hasty editing of the book, such as reference in the first discussion to a paper which apparently was presented but not included in the published works.

In all, there are a number of useful and important articles included in the book. However, quite a few articles are too short or too superficial to be of great value. As a review the book is not fully comprehensive, omitting some important aspects of Nuclear Medicine which are of increasing current interest.

D. C. PRICE, M.D.

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SYNOPSIS OF PEDIATRICS—Second Edition—
By James G. Hughes, B.A., M.D., Professor of Pediatrics and Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Memphis, Tenn.; Chief of the Pediatric Service, Frank T. Tobey Memorial Children's Hospital (City of Memphis Hospitals); Staff Member and former Chief of Staff of the Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. With the collaboration of 26 faculty members of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine. The C. V. Mosby Company, 3207 Washington Boulevard, St. Louis, Mo. 63103, 1967. 1,099 pages, \$10.85.

This Synopsis of Pediatrics contains 1,099 pages. While the outside dimensions of the book are small, it is too thick and heavy for pocket or medical bag use. Its proper place is more apt to be near the desk of a general practitioner or pediatrician who wants a concise and up-to-date discussion of the diagnosis and treatment of the majority of children's diseases which are encountered in practice. It meets this need very well—but is in competition with larger and more comprehensive pediatric texts.

Many physicians, house officers and medical students will find this text quite adequate for their needs and will appreciate its more modest price.

WILLIAM C. DEAMER, M.D.